

## ANALYSIS OF HYPERSPECTRAL DATA OF COTTON TO ESTIMATE VEGETATION INDICES UNDER DIFFERENT SOIL FERTILITY RATE

### Analisis Data Hyperspectral Tanaman Kapas untuk Mengestimasi Indeks Vegetasi pada Tingkat Kesuburan Tanah yang Berbeda

Sugianto<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Soil Science, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh

#### ABSTRAK

Kesuburan tanah sangat penting untuk pertumbuhan kapas. Status kesuburan tanah akan mempengaruhi dosis pemupukan pada tanah. Distribusi spasial kesuburan tanah dilapangan akan mempengaruhi produktifitas. Oleh karena itu, data laboratorium penginderaan jauh dapat digunakan untuk mendeteksi dan menganalisis kesuburan tanah yang mempengaruhi pertumbuhan kapas. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menunjukkan bahwa pengukuran data hyperspectral dapat memberikan petunjuk perbedaan pertumbuhan pada tingkat kesuburan tanah yang berbeda dengan melakukan analisa index tanaman. Spetraradiometer didisain untuk mengoleksi septrum tanaman dibawah tingkat kesuburan tanah yang berbeda telah diuji cobakan. Beberapa rumus index tanaman digunakan dalam penelitian ini.

**Kata kunci:** tingkat kesuburan tanah, spektoradiometer, hyperspectral, spectrum tanaman kapas.

#### INTRODUCTION

During the past several decades, the tools for vegetation remote sensing have evolved significantly (Asner, 1998). Remote sensing has become one of main tools for agricultural application especially for crops monitoring during growth cycle using vegetation indices as indicators (clevers and jongschap, 2003). Remotely sensed reflectance data, obtained by devise, satellite or aircraft, can provide at relatively low cost a set of detailed, spatially distributed data on plant growth and development. Such data may form a useful component of site-specific crop management programs (moran et al, 1997, senay et al, 1998). Meanwhile, growth of agricultural crops may not be optimal as a result of stresses due to fertilizer deficiencie, pest and disease incidence, and drought of frost (clevers 1999). Early detection of vegetation stress of agricultural crops ca be estimated by using vegetation indices values derive from remote sensing data.

One factor that affect crop stress, the fertility, is a prerequisite for their production potential Without fertilizer production potential can decrease significantly. Therefore fertilizer is crucial factor to be added in crop farming practices. Fertilizer deficiency in the field can result crop stress. Likewise, stress may cause biophysical changes in canopy structure, coverage, leaf area index or biomass. Essentially, alterations of leaf chemistry also may bc used to detect subtle changes in the vitality or vigor of vegetation (Clevers 1999) Until now most promising results obtained from remote sensing data for detccting the occurrence of plant stress decrease in vitality are obtained by studying the sharp rise in spectral reflectance of green vegetation between 670 and 780 nanometers (nm). In addition, other regions of electromagnetic reflectance data such as green (roughly 500-600 nm). red (roughly 600-700 nm) and near infrared (roughly 700-900 nm) bands are generally expressed in the form of vegetation indices, which are algcbraic combinations of the

measured canopy reflectance of different wavelength bands. Many of these indices are algebraically related (Perry & Lautenschlager 1984).

One of the reflectance range of green vegetation between 670 and 780, called the red-edge has become intensive study for vegetation performance. Both the position and the slope of the red-edge change under stress conditions, resulting into a blue shift of the red-edge position. The position of the red-edge is defined as the position of the main inflexion point of the red infrared slope. This is called the red-edge index. Reliable detection of this index requires sampling at about 10 nanometer intervals or less, requiring high-resolution spectral measurements. Crop canopy reflectance in this red and near infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum provides a means of estimating the photosynthetic status of the crop (Sellers 1989). This red-infrared value can be calculated and expressed as red-edge ratio (Gitelson & Merzylak, 1996). Vegetation indexes such as Chlorophyll-Absorption Integral (CAI) index (Oppeit & Mauser 2001a & 2001b), Normalised-Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) (Tucker 1979) and Nitrogen Vegetation Index (NVI) (Takebe et al. 1990, Bausch & Duke 1996) can be calculated to estimate the biophysical performance of agricultural crops. Other indices such as chlorophyll absorption from ratio index (CARI; Kim, Daughtry, Chappelle, & McMurtrey 1994) and photochemical reflectance index (PRI; Gamon, Robert, Green 1995). CARI found at ratio of 550 and 770 nm reflectance is constant at the level regardless of the differences in chlorophyll concentrations. PRI varies at the leaf level with photosynthetic capacity, radiation-use efficiency, and vegetation type (Gamon, et al. 1995).

To achieve this goal, high resolution spectrometer can be used to acquire crop spectra in order to estimate above vegetation indices in relation to crop stress and vitality.

Potentially, the use of spectrometers to measure the reflected radiation of vegetation offers new opportunities to estimate important carbohydrates of plants (Elvidge 1990). Specific absorption features caused by these compounds may also be found when moving such a spectrometer into an aeroplane or even satellite and using it as an imaging remote sensing technique (Goetz 1991). The demonstrated condition, demonstrating this relationship between vegetation index measures and crop hyperspectral data can be used to provide useful information for crop management. In order to analysis of hyperspectral data to be of direct, practical use in tactical management, however, it is necessary to establish a relationship between hyperspectral data and measures of crop status recorded directly on the ground. In this paper, the potential of imaging spectrometry for cotton crop under different 'stress level' due to soil conditions is evaluated by studying the information contained in imaging spectrometer data. Analysis of red-edge ratio, CAI, NDVI, NVI, CARI and PRI was performed. These could result into a selection of the most significant parts of the electromagnetic spectrum for cotton crop. It will also show whether information about plant biochemistry can be obtained and whether the red-edge is a significant region. The objective of this research was to determine the vegetation index values of cotton crop grown under different soil fertility rates by evaluating hyperspectral data. In order to achieve a controlled range of sources and levels of plant stress due to fertility deficiency, we acquired spectral data of cotton crops grown under different soil conditions to replicate the different of fertility rates in the field. This research is also part ongoing validation of Compact High Resolution Imaging Spectrometer/Project Autonomy for (CRHIS/PROBA) campaign launched in orbit in October 2001 to monitor

growing On-Board cvele of cotton crop at Colly cotton, Tuynam New South Wales.

## METHODS

Growing test at glasshouse at University of New South Wales was carried out during growing season 2002/2003. Five varieties (Sicot 189, Siokra VI6. Delta Diamond. Delta Pearl, Dela Opal) of cotton crop under four types of soil ferulity rate were tested with level of water given was 455 millimeter during growing scason. This water dosage is equal to 650 millimeter rainfall for cotton growing area at Colly Cotton, Collenerebni in New South Wales Australia Base mixed-soils consist of three components, river sand,

organic-rich soil taken South West area, and clay-rich soil taken from Nort West area of New South Wales were used in this experiment

This mixed soil combination meet the soil requirement for cotton growing in with cotton needs rich-organic and clay soil (Cotton Australia 2001) A lot of the cotton grown in Australia is grown on cracking self-mulching clay and sandy soil (Cotton Australia 2001) Clay soi also has many nutrients that the cotton plant needs. To achieve the desired fertility rates, we mised with different percentage of three components, sand soils and levels of fertilizers added to each soil see Table 1.

Tabel 1 Composition of soil fertility rate

No.	Mixed soil name	Symbol	Combination of sand, rich-organic matter soil, and rich-clay soil (%)
1.	Low	S0	60:20:20
2.	Moderate	S1	40:30:30
3.	Fertile	S2	20:40:40 + standard fertilizer (NPK)
4.	Very fertile	S3	20:40:40 + standard fertilizer (NPK) + micronutrient

$$r = h * \tan\left(\frac{\alpha}{2} * \frac{\pi}{180}\right) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

$$A = \pi * r^2 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

where r is the radius of field of vicw, height of equipment to the target, a is angle of view of the devise, and A is total area field of view to the target To compare among different fertility rate effect on appearance of cotton with the experimental spectroradiometer, measurements were made every 10 replica per pot per treatment These measurements were averaged to one spectral curve for each pot xperiment. The calculation resulted in four spectral curves; very fertile, fertile, medium and low nutrient content of soil respectively This intermediate result was used to appoint and evaluate

vegetation indices. Calculation of spectra values were focused on six aspects of indices: red- edge ratio (Gitelson &Merzylak 1996), CAI index (Oppelt & Mauser 2001a and b)NDVI (Tucker 1979) and NVI values (Takebe et al. 1990, Bausch & Duke 1996). The index of Gitelson & Merzylak 1996). The index of Gitelson & Merzylak(1996) shown in equation 3 was modified using 752 and 690 instead of 750 and 700 originally used nanometer of wavelength for such calculation for cotton crop. In this “red edge” ratio between 752 and 690 shows the vitality of a plant.

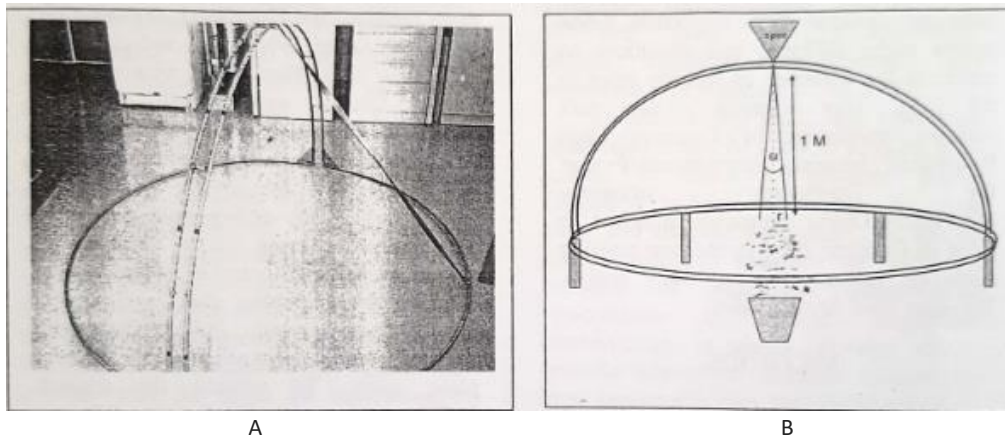


Figure 1 Goniometer-like to acquire spectra of cotton

Note : (A) Metal based and moveable pin on top (not shown) of Goniometer. (B) model show how to acquire spectra

$$red_{edge}ratio = \frac{R_{752}}{R_{690}} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

Where  $R_{752}$  reflectance value at 752 nm (%),  $R_{690}$  reflectance value at 690 nm (%).

The Corophyll-Absorptions-Integral (CAI) index derives the chlorophyll content by measuring the area between a straight line connecting two points of the red edge and the curve of the red edge itself. Therefore, it is an approach on the basis of a spectral envelope measurement (Oppelt & Mauser 2001a and b). To fit to the spectral bands of the ASD radiometer, approach the CAI was modified as follows (see equation 4 and 5).

$$mCAI = A - \int_{R_{552}}^{R_{752}} f \quad (4)$$

Where A area of the trapeze between  $R_{552}$  and  $R_{752}$ ,  $f$  reflectance curve.

Therefore, the mCAI value was calculated as follow:

$$mCAI = \frac{(R_{552} + R_{752})}{2} \times \sum_{R_{552}}^{R_{752}} R \times 1.579 \quad (5)$$

The modified CAI (mCAI) calculates the area above the spectral curve between 552 nm (green peak) and 752 nm (compare Figure 2). The mathematic approach is to calculate the area of the trapezoid (A) between 552 nm

and 752 nm and subtract it with the integral of the spectral curve between the same spectral values. This calculated index also stands for the vitality and health of cotton plant under different fertilizer deficiency.

Calculation of each spectral value for different soil fertilizer rate was done by averaging all variety spectra for each treatment, mean values. Therefore the spectra represent of averaged value of all varieties.

The ratio of 550 and 770 nm reflectance to be constant at the level regardless of the differences in chlorophyll concentrations, and defined a chlorophyll absorption ratio index (CARI, Kim et al., 1994). To estimate the variation within this range wavelength reflectance, the chlorophyll absorption band at 670 nm can be used to predict the CARI ratio variations, therefore:

$$CARI = CAR \frac{R_{700}}{R_{670}} \quad (6)$$

And photochemical reflectance index can be calculated based on the ratio reflectance  $R_{528}$  and  $R_{567}$ . These two wavelength absorptions are considered the band where the chemical absorption occurred (Gamon et al 1995)

$$PRI = \frac{R_{528} - R_{567}}{R_{528} + R_{567}} \quad (7)$$

The Nitrogen vegetation index (NVI) was calculated using ratio NR and Green reflectance, therefore the NVI is defined (Takebe et al. 1990, Bausch & Duke, 1996)

$$NVI = \frac{R_{762}}{R_{550}} \quad (8)$$

Figure 2 depicts the spectrum range where the vegetation indices can be estimated including Red edge. CAI NDVI, NDI, CARI and PRI.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### The visualization result

Figure 3 shows pictures of different vigor of cotton and sequence different among soil fertilizer deficiently.

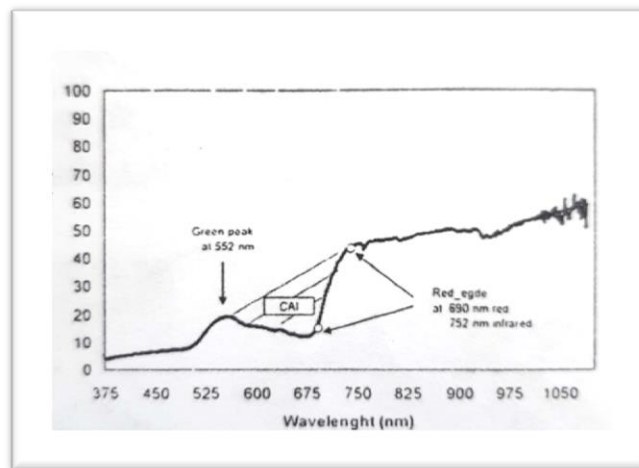


Figure 2. Graph showing spectral curve of healthy cotton crop with "red\_edge" and green peak (the two points represent the wavelengths for the ratio, and green peak for calculating NVI, CAI and CARI (area above the curve))

As the pictures were taken in the end of November 2002, the difference among four experiment pots was clearly recognized (picture 3a and 3b). The green saturation and the performance of vegetation grow is clearly noticed. The greenness among cotton crop under different soil fertility rate is recognizable (picture 3a, 3d, 3e and 3f). The greenness of the plant may be affected by the present of nutrient in the soil, especially the present of nitrogen in the soil. As cotton crops need adequate nitrogen during growing cycle (Cotton Australia, 2001), the nitrogen deficiency may affect the vigor and greenness of cotton. The nitrogen deficiency present here due to for "low and medium soil categories lack of fertilizer added.

### Vegetation index values results

The results show that hyperspectral analysis of cotton spectra grown at different soil fertility rates give different values spectrally of vegetation indices calculated. Hyperspectral measurements, shown in Figure 4, represent the average of various plants vigor and vitality under their different soil conditions which is represented in percentage of spectra against the wavelength. The reflectance curves of "healthy" cotton crops are characterized through: high reflectance at red-edge position. Meanwhile, low reflectance value is clearly recognized for low and medium fertility rate for low reflectance at red-edge position. The "green peak" and the high

reflectance in the near infrared portion of the spectrum are also visible. Healthy plants show nearly all the same reflectance curve for high and very high fertility rate because of their homogenous growth and vitality. The reflection curves of low fertility rate of cotton crop are completely different, with almost

flat reflectance at red-edge position. Their "spectral fingerprint (= spectral curve) rises from the blue portion of the spectrum to the Near Infrared nearly continuously, except the part of the infrared shoulder, which shows also a lower slope and length in contrast to the other one.

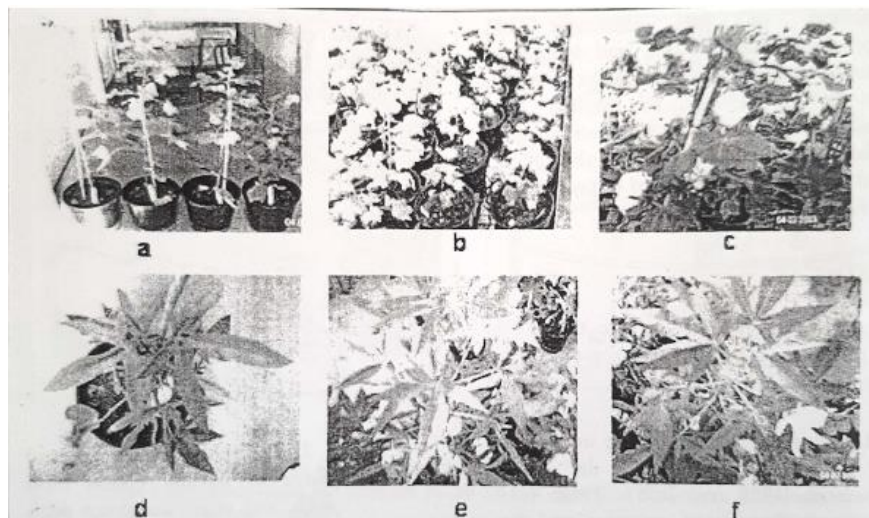


Figure 3. Cotton leaves appearance with different soil fertilizer rate

Note : (a) four types of very fertile, fertile, medium and low fertility rate at single pot (b) cotton leaves from very fertile to low, (c) leaf under very fertile soil (d) low € fertile and (f) very fertile leaf.

The reflectance and wavelength values of Figure 4 were used to calculate vegetation indices, which stand for the vitality and health of a plant. To point out the difference and the spectral contrast among level of fertility condition of experiments, spectral and hyperspectral vegetation indices formula were used to estimate the indices values.

Table 2 shows the fertile and very fertile soil condition give the higher value for all indices calculated, except for PRI value. Meanwhile without fertilizer and poor soil fertility give the lower values for given indices calculated. While the red edge, CAI and the CARI of healthy plants show high indices values. Interestingly, in this simple calculation,

the values on NDVI and PRI among the soil fertility conditions give almost the same values 0.99 to 1.00 and 0.08 to -0.11 respectively. It is assumed that the NDVI value calculated is insignificant different among the soil condition due to the entire plants grown in this different soil conditions reflected of 'greenness' at the calculated values almost the same. This also can be assumed that the ratio value of red and near-infrared among soil treatments is the close range. It also notices that for photochemical index value, all plant grown in different soil will reflect the same value in term of photochemical reflectance. This is due to photochemical activities on this wave region is not affected by the different in soil fertility rate.

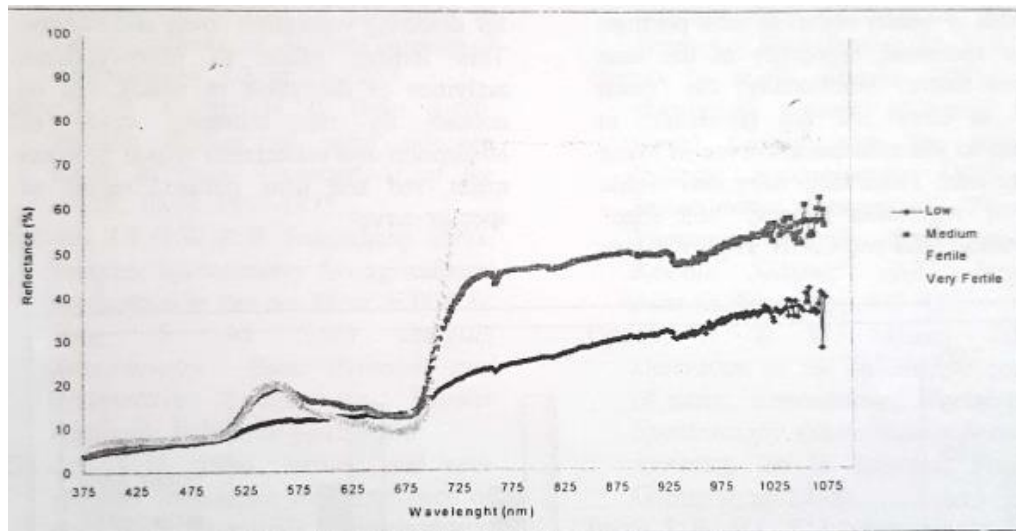


Figure 4. Averaged reflectance curves of cotton crop at different soil fertility rates

Tabel 2. Calculated value of Red\_edge, CAI, NDVI, BDI, CARI, and PRI

Indices	Low	Medium	Fertile	Very Fertile
Red Edge	1.59	2.95	6.33	6.20
CAI/1000	0.51	2.15	4.47	4.60
NDVI	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00
NVI	2.04	2.38	3.52	2.69
CARI	6.89	28.20	65.49	84.88
PRI	-0.09	-0.011	-0.08	-0.10

The generated reflection curves showed a significant difference among cotton growth conditions. The reflection of healthy plants under soil fertile condition in comparison to low fertility rate ones is clearly higher at most portions of the spectrum, especially at the near infrared sector. Additionally, the "green peak" at circa 552 nm is visible, in contrast to the reflectance curves of lower fertility rate. These facts were also visible using 4 vegetation indices; "red edge" CAI-Index, NDI and CARI. Higher values at the "red edge". CAI and CARI show a higher grade of plant vitality

under very and fertile soil conditions. From this preliminary test of growing cotton can be used as spectra library reference for field spectra and image spectra of cotton in the field. Figure 5 represent the comparison of four most significant vegetation indices for detecting vegetation stress and vitality. These indices relate to photosynthetic activities of the plant in which will be noticed by the changing value of and reflectance region between red and near infrared region of absorption green, spectra curve



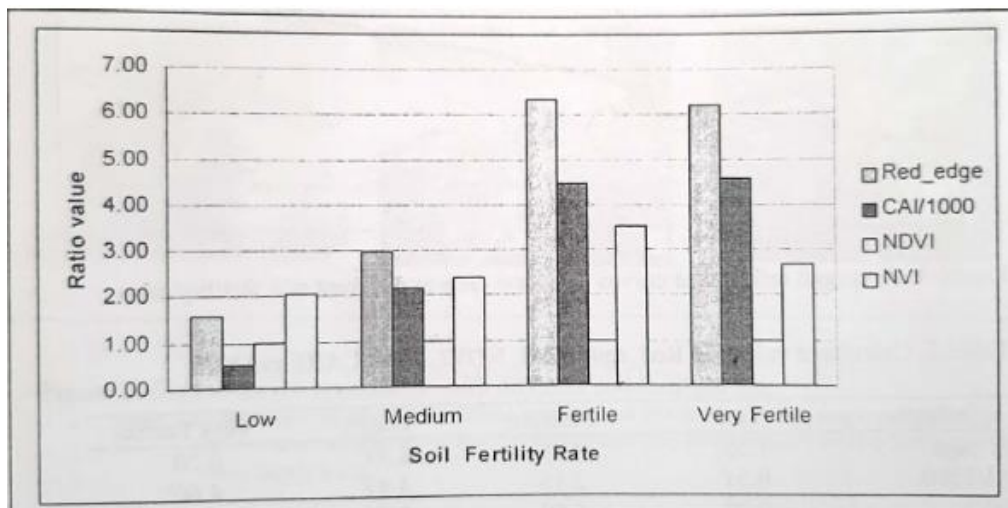


Figure 5: Graph of spectral and hyperspectral vegetation indices ("Red edge", CAI, NDVI and NVI) to quantify the differences among cotton appearance under different soil fertility rate.

## CONCLUSIONS

The performance of cotton crop under different soil fertility rate is clearly identified. Cotton with low and medium categories show less "greenness" compared to the fertile and very fertile categories. The vegetation indices (red \_edge, CAI Index, NDI, and CARI) of lower fertility rate presents in lower value compare to high fertility rate, except for NDVI, and PRI. Considering the presented results of the first data in the laboratory, the authors will intensify the field experiments in the field during 2003/2004 growing season. Additionally, multi-temporal space borne CHRIS/PROBA hyperspectral data analysis with evaluation against the laboratory and the field measurements will be used to develop a method spatial variation of soil fertility in the field.

## REFERENCES

- Asner, G. P. 1998 Biophysical and biochemical sources of variability in canopy reflectance, *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 63, pp 234-253
- Bausch, W. C. and H. R. Duke. 1996 Remote sensing of plant nitrogen status in corn. *Transactions-of the ASAE*, 39(5): 1869-1875.
- Clevers, J.P.G.W &R. Jongschaap. 2003. Imaging spectrometry fro agricultural application in van der Meer, F.D & de Jong. S. M. (cd.) *Imaging Spectrometry Basic Principle and Prospective Applications*, Kluwer Academic Publisers; pp157-200
- Elvidge, CD. 1990. Visible and near infrared reflectance characteristics of dry plant materials. *International Journal of Remote Sensing* 11:1775- 1795
- Gamon, J.A.. D.A. Roberts &RO. Green 1995 Evaluation of photochemical reflectance index in AVIRIS imagery In *Summaries of the Fifth Annual JPL Airborne Earth Science Workshop. Vol I, AVIRIS Workshop (Ed R.O Green). January 23-26,1995. NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Publication 95-1, vol.1, p55-58*
- Gitelson, A, & MN. Merzlyak 1996 Detection of red edge position and chlorophyll content by reflectance measurements near 700 nm, *Journal of Plant Physiology*, 148, pp.501-508.
- Goetz, A. F. H. 1991. *Imaging spectrometry fer studying carth, air, fire and water.*



- EARSeL-Advances in Remote Sensing I, pp.3-15.
- Kim, M.S., C.S.T. Doughtry, E. W Chappelle & J.E. McMurtrey. 1994 The use high spectral resolution bands for estimating absorbed photo synthetically active radiation (APAR). In Proc. ISPRS 94 Vai d'Isere France 17-21 January 1994 (pp299- 306)
- Moran, M. S. Y. Inoue & E. M. Banes 1997. Opportunities and limitations for image-based remote sensing in precision crop management. Remote Sensing of Environment, 61: 319-346
- Oppelt, N. & W. Mauser. 2001a. The chlorophyll content of maize (Zea mays) derived with the Airborne Imaging Spectrometer. AVIS. 8th International Symposium "Physical Measurements &Signatures in Remote Sensing", 8-12 January, Aussois, France, pp 407-412.
- Opoelt, N. & W. Mauser 2001b Derivation of the chlorophyll content of maize. International Workshop on Spectroscopy Application in Precision Farming, 16-18 January. Freising Germany, pp.52-56
- Perry, J. R &L. F. Lautenschlager. 1984 Functional equivalence of spectral vegetation indices Remote Sensing of Environment, 14 169-182
- Senay, G B. AD Ward, JG Lyon. N R Fauscy &S E Nokes. 1998 Manipulation of high spatial resolution aircraft remote sensing data for use in site-specific farming Transactions of the ASAE, 41(2) 489- 495
- Takebe, M. T Yoneyama, K. Inada& T Murakami 1990 Spectral reflectance ratio of rice canopy for estimating crop nitrogen status. Plant and Soil, 122: 295-297
- Tucker, C.J 1979 Red and photographic infrared linear combinations for monitoring vegetation. Remote Sensing of Evironment, 8 127-150